



EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV336620446US

**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**(To be used for all correspondence
after initial filing)

Application Number	10/039,240
Filing Date	January 4, 2002
First Named Inventor	Vincent E. Bryan
Art Unit	3763
Examiner Name	LoAn H. Thanh
Attorney Docket No.	170134.401

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> CD(s), Number of CD(s) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Corrected Filing Receipt | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (<i>Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief</i>) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation, Change of Correspondence Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO-1449 | <input type="checkbox"/> Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cited References | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 C.F.R. 1.52 or 1.53 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application | | |

Remarks

RECEIVED

NOV 25 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Individual Name	E. Russell Tarleton	Customer Number 00500
Signature	<i>E. Russell Tarleton</i>	
Date	November 17, 2003	

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	***SET VIA EXPRESS MAIL***	
Signature		Date:

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
C:\NrpPortbl\Manage\ATHENAP\433656_1.DOC



EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV336620446US

T-7A
11-25-03

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Vincent E. Bryan et al.
Application No. : 10/039,240
Filed : January 4, 2002
For : SPINAL NEEDLE SYSTEM

RECEIVED

NOV 25 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

#61
Election
Amend

Examiner : LoAn H. Thanh
Art Unit : 3763
Docket No. : 170134.401
Date : November 17, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated October 17, 2003, applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-10 and 12-13, for examination at this time.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.